

Remarks

This amendment is being filed in response to the nonfinal Office Action mailed October 6, 2010. In that Office Action, claims 17, 18, 20–28, 30, 31, and 33–40 were rejected on prior art grounds. Accordingly, claims 17, 18, 20–28, 30, 31, and 33–40 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections — 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 17, 18, 20–28, 30, 31, and 33–40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hass (U.S. Pat. No. 1,331,707) in view of Rado (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0074985). The Applicants traverse the rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Claim 17 is being amended to recite, *inter alia*, “An automotive fluid system valve...comprising...wherein the first valve member has an axial cavity located therein, the axial cavity receiving fluid-flow from the inlet...a restriction passageway communicating with the axial cavity of the first valve member, wherein, during use of the automotive fluid system valve, a pressure differential across the restriction passageway creates a change in pressure in the axial cavity causing the first valve member to move.” Because of the amendment to claim 17, claims 26 and 27 are being canceled and claims 21 and 38 are being amended. Hass discloses a flushing valve for water closets including a rubber ring 42 and a transfer tube 22. The transfer tube 22 has a lateral aperture 24 so that water can seep into a pressure chamber 29. At page 4, lines 44–54, Hass discloses that the opening of a relief valve 38 establishes communication between the pressure chamber 29 and a flushing outlet chamber 10, and which reduces the pressure in the pressure chamber so that pressure acting on the rear face of the flushing valve [i.e., flexible diaphragm 25] causes the flushing valve to open to its full extent. This does not teach or suggest the subject matter of the above recitation of claim 17. Rado does not cure the deficiency of Hass.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 17 is patentable over Hass and Rado, and should be allowed. Claims 18, 20–25, 28, 30, 31, and 38 depend from claim 17 and should be allowable at least for the reasons that claim 17 is allowable.

Claim 33 is being amended to recite, *inter alia*, “An automotive fluid system valve...wherein, during use of the automotive fluid system valve, a pressure differential

across the restriction passageway creates a change in pressure in the axial cavity causing the first valve member to move.” For similar reasons as discussed above for claim 17, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 33 is patentable over Hass and Rado, and should be allowed. Claims 34–36, 39, and 40 depend from claim 33 and should be allowable at least for the reasons that claim 33 is allowable.


Claim 37 is being amended to recite, *inter alia*, “An automotive fluid system valve...wherein, when the first needle moves to the first needle open position, a pressure differential across the restriction passageway facilitates movement of the second needle to the second needle open position.” For similar reasons as discussed above for claim 17, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 37 is patentable over Hass and Rado, and should be allowed.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is therefore requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if doing so would advance prosecution of this case.

No fees are believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to Charge Deposit Account No. 50-0852 for any required fees, or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Corey M. Beaubien, Reg. No. 64,965
Reising Ethington PC
P.O. Box 4390
Troy, Michigan 48099-4390
Telephone: 248-689-3500
Facsimile: 248-689-4071

Dated: January 6, 2011
CWB/cmb